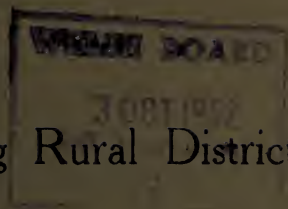


Hiraethog Rural District Council



# ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

1951



*Medical Officer :*

Dr. M. JONES ROBERTS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
THE CLINIC, MIDDLE LANE,  
DENBIGH. Tel. 428.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

J. SETH ROBERTS, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,  
COUNCIL OFFICES, AVONDALE,  
LLANRWST. Tel. 68.



## To The Chairman and Members of The Hiraethog Rural District Council

---

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1951. During the year the Hiraethog Rural District joined with the Denbigh Borough, Ruthin Borough, Llanrwst Urban District and the Rural District of Ruthin to form the Western No. 2 Health Area. This area now has a Joint Medical Officer who is also Assistant County Medical Officer with duties associated with the Examination of School Children, Examination of Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children, attendance at Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics and the immunisation of Infants and School Children against diphtheria, whooping cough and small-pox. I was appointed to this post and commenced duties on the 1st June, 1951. I am, therefore, responsible for the health of the District for the second half of the year, the first half having been the responsibility of Dr. Pierce, who has served you for many years. I would like to record my appreciation of the very kind way in which Dr. Pierce handed over the various registers and explained to me the form in which they had been kept, and also how he administered his duties. I would also like to thank the officials, and in particular the Sanitary Inspector. They have all given me very welcome assistance in a new post.

During the six months I have been greatly handicapped by lack of proper office accommodation, and no clerical assistance. Having to do all the clerical work myself, I have found it very difficult to find time to get down to the practical side of the work. This is to be remedied early in the new year.

The PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF consists of :—

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. M. Jones Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 1st June, 1951.)

Dr. T. Heber Pierce, M.D., D.P.H. (Retired 31st May, 1951.)

Sanitary Inspector :

J. Seth Roberts, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

The following statistics are given for the information of the Council :

### GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT

Area of the District ... ..	93,079 (acres)
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1951) ... ..	5,073
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	1,769
Rateable Value ... ..	£29,329
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£118

## COMPARABILITY FACTOR :

For Births ... ..	0.16
For Deaths ... ..	0.88

## LIVE BIRTHS :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ..	39	29	68
Illegitimate ... ..	—	5	5
	—	—	—
Total ... ..	39	34	73
Birth rate per 1,000 population (crude) ... ..			14.4
Birth rate per 1,000 population (correct) ... ..			16.7

	Male	Female	Total
STILL BIRTHS ... ..	3	1	4
Still Birth rate per 1,000 population ... ..			0.79

## INFANT MORTALITY :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ..	—	—	NIL
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	NIL
Total ... ..	—	—	NIL
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..			NIL

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS ... ..	44	40	84
Mortality rate per 1,000 population (crude) ... ..			16.5
Mortality rate per 1,000 population (correct) ... ..			14.5

The following table shows how statistics for 1951 compare with those for 1950 and with those for England and Wales for 1951 :—

	England and Wales, 1951	1950	1951
Population ... ..	—	5,108	5,073
Birth rate ... ..	15.5	14.48	16.7
Infant Mortality rate ... ..	29.6	81.10	NIL
Still-Birth rate ... ..	0.36	0.39	0.79
Maternal Mortality rate ... ..	0.79	13.51	NIL
Death rate ... ..	12.5	13.71	16.5

It is gratifying to note that there were no Infant Deaths in the Rural Area during 1951. There were, however, 4 still-births, and the still-birth rate is higher than that for 1950, both figures being higher than that for England and Wales for 1951.

The following table shows the causes of death :—

	1950	1951		
	Total	Male	Female	Total
Coronary Disease ... ..	10	3	2	5
Tuberculosis—				
Respiratory ... ..	2	1	—	1
Other ... ..	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	1	1
Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—
Malignant Diseases—				
Stomach ... ..	—	—	3	3
Lungs, etc. ... ..	—	—	—	—
Breast ... ..	—	—	1	1
Uterus ... ..	—	—	2	2
Other ... ..	7	5	1	6
Total Cancer Deaths ... ..	7	5	7	12
Leukaemia ... ..	—	—	—	—
Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous systems ... ..	1	8	7	15
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	—	4	1	5
Other Heart Diseases ... ..	13	10	10	20
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	3	2	1	3
Influenza ... ..	1	—	5	5
Pneumonia ... ..	3	—	—	—
Bronchitis ... ..	4	4	—	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	—	1	1	2
Ulcers of Stomach, etc. ... ..	—	2	—	2
Gastritis, Diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—
Nephritis ... ..	4	1	2	3
Prostatic Hyperplasia ... ..	—	—	—	—
Maternal Causes ... ..	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ... ..	—	—	—	—
Premature Births ... ..	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	8	3	3	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	1	—	—	—
All Other Accidents ... ..	—	—	—	—
Suicide ... ..	1	—	—	—
Homicide ... ..	—	—	—	—
All other causes ... ..	10	—	—	—
All Causes ... ..	70	44	40	84

There has been one death from whooping cough amongst 30 cases notified. It will be interesting to note the number of whooping cough cases occurring and the deaths from the disease during the next few years following immunisation. Apart from 5 deaths from Influenza, there were no deaths from other Infectious Diseases.

Cancer has claimed 12 victims, an increase of 5 on the 1950 figure. The incidence of deaths from cancer could be reduced if patients attended their doctors when they first think they have signs of cancer. Early treatment of cancer, especially in accessible sites, will prevent spread and loss of life.

There is a great increase in the number of people dying from heart and other vascular lesions. This is a general trend and cannot be accounted for merely by the general wear and tear of these organs due to the fact that people now live longer.

The following table gives the incidence of Infectious Diseases notified in the District :—

Notifiable Diseases	At Ages							
	Under 1 year.	1—5 years.	5—15 years.	15—25 years.	25—45 years.	45—65 years.	65 years and over.	TOTAL
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria Observation ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9
Scarlet Fever Observation ... ..	—	3	6	—	—	—	1	10
Enteric ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis Observation ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Measles ... ..	3	52	81	3	7	—	63	209
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis Observation ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	3	2	—	—	—	25	30
Observation Typhoid ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	3	59	89	3	9	—	103	266

There were again no cases of diphtheria, this being due to the effective means of Immunisation which is carried out by the private doctors and at the Clinics. Children are immunised as soon as possible after 6 months and again at ages of approximately 5 years and 10 years.

30 cases of whooping cough were notified, with one death. Immunisation against whooping cough has been undertaken at the clinics during the last quarter of the year, and it is hoped that this dreaded disease with its complications will become unknown as is the case with diphtheria.

There has been a severe epidemic of measles, particularly in the Cerrigy-Drudion—Llangwm area, but fortunately no deaths occurred. A doctor concerned drew my attention to one way in which measles was spread in this epidemic, and it was by masses of children meeting at religious gatherings. The epidemic could be traced from one area to another by contact in this manner.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following information is supplied by the Sanitary Inspector :—

Number of Visits in connection with the above ... ..	24
Number of rooms fumigated and disinfected ... ..	3
Number of cases where bedding was removed for stoving ... ..	3
Number of infectious cases removed to hospital ... ..	3
Number of cases where disinfectants issued ... ..	14

Hospitals for Infectious Diseases are at Colwyn Bay, Wrexham and Hawarden.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### LABORATORY PROVISIONS.

Specimens for Bacteriological Examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Conway. Samples of water, milk and ice-cream are also tested bacteriologically here.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service is controlled by the County Medical Officer, and details of the service will be found in his Annual Report. Western No. 2 Area has an ambulance station at Denbigh, Ruthin, Cerrig, Llanrwst and Llangerniew, with one ambulance at each station, making a total of 5 for the area. The ambulances deal with general and accident cases. Each is manned by voluntary personnel. To supplement the ambulances, use is made of voluntary drivers of the W.V.S. Hospital Car Service and local taxi proprietors for the conveyance of sitting cases. Ambulances to transport infectious cases are sent from the hospitals concerned at Wrexham and Colwyn Bay.

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

A full report of this service will be given in the County Medical Officer's Annual Report.

### CLINICS.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Cerrig on the 1st Friday morning in the month. Patients from the Rural Area also attend at Llanrwst Clinic on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings in the month.

19 expectant mothers attended the Cerrig Clinic for the first visit, and there were 46 re-visits.



Infant Welfare Clinics. The area is served by Infant Welfare Clinics as follows :—

Cerrig : 1st Friday morning in the month.

Llangerniew : Last Thursday afternoon in the month.

Llanrwst : 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon in the month.

At these Clinics, children are immunised against diphtheria, and during the last quarter of the year, whooping cough inoculations have been given either separately or combined with diphtheria.

During the last quarter also, vaccination against small-pox has been undertaken at these clinics. It was found necessary at times to have special clinics for inoculation.

Below is a table showing the number immunised, and has been supplied by the County Health Offices, Wrexham :—

Diphtheria :

Number immunised under 5 years ... ..	58
Number immunised over 5 years ... ..	6
Number given booster doses ... ..	65

Percentage immunised :

Between 1-5 years ... ..	88.7%
Between 5-15 years ... ..	96.9%

These figures are very satisfactory.

Whooping Cough :

Number immunised under 5 years ... ..	4
Number immunised over 5 years ... ..	NIL

Combined doses of Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccine :

Number immunised under 5 years ... ..	9
Number immunised over 5 years ... ..	NIL

Vaccination :

Number vaccinated against small-pox ... ..	63
--	----

OTHER CLINICS.

Venereal Diseases : Clinics are held at Llandudno, Bangor and Chester.

Tuberculosis : Clinics are held at various centres : Llandudno, Denbigh and Wrexham.

Orthopaedic : Patients attend at either Corwen or Llanrwst on alternate Tuesdays. The Surgeon attends once every three months.

Dental Clinics : Expectant mothers and infants under 5 years of age are seen by appointment at Llanrwst, Denbigh and Wrexham, whichever is the most convenient for the patient. The following table shows the attendances and the treatment carried out :—



# HIRAETHOG

	Number Examined	Number needing Treatment	Number Treated	Number made Dentally Fit	Extractions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scaling or Scaling & Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressing	Radiographs	Dentures Provided	
						Local	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ... ..	4	4	4	4	9	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	11	6
Children under 5 years of age ... ..	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The number suffering from Tuberculosis at the end of December, 1951, were as follows :—

	Male	Female
Pulmonary ... ..	28	27
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	16	10

The Mass Radiography Unit attended at Llanrwst in December, 1951, but the Rural population were really not given an opportunity to attend. As the scope of this unit increases, I do hope that the same facilities will be given to people in the Rural Areas to attend. Children over 14 years of age attending the Modern and Grammar Schools were given the opportunity for examination, but I have no figures for this as the return included the pupils from the Urban District.

## HEALTH VISITING.

Two Health Visitors serve the area and attend at the Clinics. They also visit the children in their homes.

## DISTRICT NURSING.

There are 2 midwives in this area, and they also do the Home Nursing. These nurses reside in the Cerrig and Llangerniew area. For part of the year there was also a Nurse at Pentrefoelas.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The number of Home Helps in this Area is 3, and they have attended two general cases and 6 confinement cases.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was taken under Section 47 of this Act during 1951.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Chemical : Results as shown by schedule were satisfactory over the year. Generally, supplies in the area depict an acid reaction and initially attack lead ; they also have a deteriorating effect on iron pipes.

Bacteriological : Analysis as shown by schedule shows much fluctuation in the quality of some supplies. Some main supplies are not satisfactory, and it appears that action other than cleaning of the storage tanks will have to be resorted to to clear the contamination. The results show a dire necessity for a bulk water supply scheme.

The Sanitary Inspector in his report has given details of reports on water supplies in the district.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE HIRAETHOG RURAL DISTRICT

The following is the report of the Sanitary Inspector :—

### GENERAL SUMMARY.

Complaints received ... ..	180
Nuisances discovered ... ..	303
Nuisances abated ... ..	269
Informal Notices served ... ..	131
Statutory Notices served ... ..	12
Informal Notices abated ... ..	103
Statutory Notices abated ... ..	7

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Visits to Fried Fish Shops ... ..	9
„ „ Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	26
„ „ Factories and Workplaces ... ..	34
„ „ Bakehouses ... ..	36
„ „ Public Conveniences ... ..	26
„ „ Licensed Premises ... ..	21
Visits re Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	245
„ „ Rats and Mice ... ..	131
Visits to Schools ... ..	61
„ „ Butchers' Shops ... ..	26
„ „ Other Shops and Stalls ... ..	84
„ „ Sewerage Works ... ..	63
„ „ Housing Sites ... ..	21
Visits re Water Supply ... ..	297
„ „ Drainage ... ..	313
„ „ Housing Inspections ... ..	540
„ „ Infectious Diseases ... ..	24
„ „ Canteens ... ..	4
Visits to Milk Distributors ... ..	3
Visits re Milk Sampling ... ..	4
Visits to Food-preparing Premises ... ..	60
„ „ Ice Cream Premises ... ..	17
Miscellaneous Visits ... ..	94

---

Total Inspections ... .. 2136

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Collections : Once per fortnight (with certain exceptions).

Premises from which refuse removed ... ..	550
Loads removed ... ..	420
Cost per load removed ... ..	£1/13/3
Total cost ... ..	£698/5/4
Cost per collection ... ..	1/- (approx.)
No. of vehicles used ... ..	2
Men employed ... ..	4
Mileage per gallon (average of two lorries) ... ..	9.56
(The above are based on figures for the Financial Year 1950-51.)	

The refuse round has been increased to include a monthly service to Siloam, Capel Garmon, and a three-monthly service in the case of Nebo, Eglwysbach.

For collection purposes the district is divided into two parts, each being collected in alternate weeks so as to leave one lorry and two men continually free for other Council work on water supply, sewerage, etc.

Tips are sited at Capel Garmon, Pentrefoelas, Cerrigydrudion, Hafod (Bettws-y-Coed), Llandoget, Pandy Tudur and Eglwysbach. Alternative sites will have to be found shortly for the latter two as the present sites are nearing their capacity. With the minimum of labour available, tipping is carried out as far as possible in adherence to the rules for controlled tipping. Each tip is periodically baited for rats.

## SALVAGE.

No salvage collection is made, as the Council, having regard to past experience, feel that the cost of collection and ultimate baling and transport would only be a charge on the district. Any paper which might be collected in bulk is handed over to the Llanrwst Urban Authority.

## RODENT DESTRUCTION.

No Rodent Operator is employed by the Council. During the year inquiry was made into the possibility of appointing an operator to act jointly between Nant Conway R.D.C., Llanrwst U.D.C. and Hiraethog R.D.C. The Council, however, in view of the large area which its district comprises, felt that in the interest of efficiency the work could only be satisfactorily accomplished by the appointment of an operator to serve its own district. No further action in the matter has yet been taken.

Refuse tips, sewers and other Council property are periodically baited and kept free of infestation.

No. of inspections ... ..	131
No. of infestations found :	
(a) Agricultural premises ... ..	NIL
(b) Business premises ... ..	3
(c) Private dwellings ... ..	5
(d) Council property ... ..	17

#### ICE CREAM.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream within the district, but two premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream, and two vehicles from adjoining districts retail ice cream in the area during the summer months. Vehicles and premises were periodically inspected and found to be satisfactory.

#### FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Only one shop carries on this trade in the area. It was necessary to serve a notice for lack of cleanliness during the year.

#### LICENSED PREMISES.

No. in district ... ..	13
No. of inspections ... ..	21

These premises are well maintained, but it is desirable to have improvements, especially with regard to bar washing facilities and sanitary conveniences in several cases. It is intended that these will be seen to during the course of the next year. One statutory notice was served in respect of absence of adequate sanitary conveniences together with defective drainage.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933-51.

There are no licensed slaughter-houses in the area, but licences under the above Act to slaughter animals are held by 40 persons.

#### MILK.

Two samples of school milk (T.T. and T.T. Pasteurised) together with one retailer sample (attested) were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Conway. Each was reported as reaching the required legal standard.

Concern has been expressed by the Council at the lack of inspection of the premises of non-designated producer/retailers in the area. It was felt that many of the dairies and cowsheds were in a worse condition since Local Authorities were relieved of their obligations in October, 1949.

Following correspondence with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, it has been promised that inspections will be made of these premises.

There are no dairies or distributors in the area registered by the Council; one supplementary licence only for the retailing of pasteurised and pasteurised T.T. milk is in force.

## SHOPS.

No. in district	39
No. of inspections made	21
No. of notices served	7

Following informal action some alterations were effected to one butcher's shop; of the other three in the area two do not reach a very satisfactory structural standard but are well maintained. Improvement will be sought in these cases. Only one premise is registered for the sale and manufacture of sausages, and following inspection, the premises used for their manufacture have been considerably improved to bring to the required standard.

## UN SOUND FOOD SEIZED DURING YEAR.

The following articles of food were condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

- 2 x 12-oz. tins Smorgons minced beef loaf.
- 8 x 1-lb. tins sliced peaches (Leetons, Australia).
- 1 x 4-lb. tin Unox luncheon meat.
- 1 x 1-lb. tin yellow peaches (Italian).
- 33 x 12-oz. tins luncheon meat (Danish).
- 3 x 12-oz. tins pork luncheon meat (F.A.S.) (Danish).
- 2 x 12-oz. tins chopped pork (P.K. Polish).
- 1 x 12-oz. tin Surf canned grapes.
- 5 x 12-oz. tins Dor luncheon meat.
- 1 x 1-lb. 3-oz. tin Bachelors processed peas.
- 1 x 4½-oz. tin Liberator sardines.
- 1 x 6-oz. tin macaroni in tomato sauce (Blanquet).
- 3 tins Ideal milk—full cream (Nestlés).
- 1 tin Libby's evaporated milk.
- 1 tin Cow & Gate unsweetened evaporated milk.
- 1 x 3-lb. 13-oz. tin Olida luncheon meat (Belgian).
- 1 x 15-lb. tin boneless cooked ham (German).
- 1 x 15-lb. tin cooked shoulder ham (Italian).
- 2 x 1-lb. 4-oz. tins Lincan red plums.
- 1 x 16-oz. tin Westwick strawberries in syrup.
- 1 x 2-lb. tin Pickering golden plums.
- 1 tin Carnation evaporated milk—full cream.
- 1 x 16-oz. tin pilchards.
- 2 x 7-oz. tins Olida luncheon meat.
- 1 x 3-oz. pot Tea-time fish paste.
- 1 x 14-oz. tin peeled tomatoes (Italian).
- 2 tins Colleen unsweetened evaporated milk—full cream.
- 1 x 7-oz. Unox luncheon meat.
- 1 tin Calf brand condensed machine skimmed milk.
- 2 x 14-oz. Armavale sliced apples in syrup.
- 1 x 12-oz. tin Olida luncheon meat.

No statutory action was necessary in respect of unsound food.

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities † ...	1	2	4	2	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	2	14	17	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	3	3	13	—	—	3
TOTAL ... ..		19	34	2	—	



2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)— (a) Insufficient ... ..	9	1	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ... ..	60	3	2	—	—	—	60

## BAKEHOUSES.

No. in district ... ..	4
Inspections made ... ..	36
Notices served ... ..	1

The bakehouses in the district, with one exception, were well maintained during the year. The exception was brought to the required standard of cleanliness after the serval of an informal notice. Structural improvements are necessary in two cases to bring to a higher standard.

## FOOD BYELAWS.

The Council adopted Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1938/50, during the year ; no deviation was made from the model byelaws. It is as yet too early to judge their effect, but they should prove a useful contribution to the raising of the standard of hygiene in food premises in the area.

The Council have also adopted the recommendation of the Ministry of Food for the issuing of notices to be displayed in food shops requesting persons to co-operate in the interest of food hygiene by leaving dogs outside.

## INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS

No. of elementary schools ... ..	13
No. of modern secondary schools ... ..	1
No. of private schools ... ..	1
No. of visits made ... ..	61
No. of informal notices served ... ..	4
No. of statutory notices served ... ..	3

The Council have been seriously concerned with the drainage and sanitary accommodation of the schools at Llangwm, Pandy Tudur and Capel Garmon, and following the absence of improvements, served statutory notices. The Church School at Llangwm, following the serval of a statutory notice, was declared a voluntary controlled school, the Education Committee becoming responsible for the structure ; the work of converting the existing bucket closets to water closets, together with the installation of lavatory basins on the school premises and other work will, it is hoped, be commenced soon. Schemes for improved waste water drainage disposal at Capel Garmon and for adequate disposal of excreta from the bucket closets at Pandy Tudur is expected to be commenced in the near future.

One but cannot feel deeply at the appalling conditions which have been allowed to prevail regardng the sanitary conditions of many of the schools in the area and the difficulty in having improvements executed. The existing conditions are a direct abrogation of the teaching of hygiene to the children. It is disheartening to realise that in some cases the Education Authorities are responsible for the neglect.

The on'y bright spots with regard to the schools in the area have been the conversion to water closets at Llanfihangel G.M. Council School, whilst at Gwytherin Council School similar work is in progress together with the installation of lavatory basins ; a clothes drying room is also being provided, all being housed in a newly-constructed annexe.

## HOUSING

### INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects  
(Public Health and Housing Acts) ... .. 540
- (b) No. of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or  
injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... .. 141

### REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVAL OF FORMAL NOTICE.

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal  
action ... .. 98

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.  
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which D.O.'s were made ... 0  
No. of dwelling houses where undertakings were accepted ... 2
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.  
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served  
requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 114  
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after  
serval of formal notice ... .. 16

Of the 135 houses surveyed up to the present their classification is as  
follows :—

- Class I. Satisfactory in all respects ... .. 20% (27 houses)
- Class II. Minor defects ... .. 27% (36 houses)
- Class III. Requiring repairs, structural alterations  
or improvements ... .. 37% (50 houses)
- Class IV. Unfit for human habitation and beyond  
repairs at a reasonable cost ... .. 16% (22 houses)

There are a number of houses in the district for which demolition is  
the only answer, whilst a large number are rapidly approaching this cate-  
gory through unarrested decay. As far as the owners of the latter type are  
concerned, repairs and improvements with the present high cost of materials  
coupled with the price of labour are entirely uneconomical—especially  
where the rents are in the region of 1/6d. to 4/- weekly.

A large percentage are built of stone rubble with slate roofs, whilst  
such sanitary defects as low headrooms, restricted window areas, dampness  
and general structural defects in the outer and inner fabric are apparent.  
Many are dependent on intermittent well and spring supplies, whilst  
drainage facilities are generally absent.

The Housing Act, 1949, will not help to overcome these conditions until a reduction is accepted in the required standard, making the owners become eligible for improvements grants.

Recourse to taking action to those houses which fall into the category of those unfit for human habitation and cannot be repaired at a reasonable cost, is thwarted due to the necessity of having to re-house a family. Action under the Public Health Act in lieu of the Housing Act merely alleviates without coming to grips with the problem. The only clear hope is for the time when the housing needs of the district are fulfilled and concentrated efforts can be made towards the demolition of such unfit premises. When this time arrives however, it can only be hoped that Council House rents will have decreased considerably, as at the present time there is no doubt that the high rents do prove a deterrent to many families in applying for a Council House. The present policy of the Council is to take action to prevent the re-letting of unfit houses when such become vacant.

#### OVERCROWDING.

No figure is available, and although cases do exist, it is not a serious problem in the district. 11 cases were abated during the year by re-housing in Council Houses.

#### NEW HOUSES.

Completed during the year :—		In course of construction :—	
Melinycoed ... ..	8	Eglwysbach ... ..	10
Nebo ... ..	2	Llanddoget ... ..	2
Llanfihangel G.M. ... ..	8	Cerrigydrudion ... ..	12
Llangwm ... ..	4		

A scheme has been submitted to the Department for the erection of 14 houses at Llangerniew. No houses were built by private enterprise during the year.

The following schedules give details of reports on water supplies in the district :—

#### WATER SUPPLIES—GENERAL.

No. of visits and inspections ... ..	297
Samples taken from Public Supplies ... ..	59
Samples taken from Private Supplies ... ..	5
Satisfactory ... ..	2
Unsatisfactory ... ..	3
New domestic connections to Council's mains ... ..	8
Approved domestic connections from private sources ... ..	15

No acute water shortage was felt during the year mainly due to a fairly wet summer. In two cases only—Mountain View, Capel Garmon, and Pand y Tudur—was it necessary to carry water ; in each case the shortage was aggravated by visitors during the Eisteddfod week.

The reservoir at Cefnhirfynydd—supplying the villages and hamlets of Cerrigydrudion, Glasfryn and Cefn Brith—dropped alarmingly over a period of one month due to a combination of a spell of fine weather and building operations. Supplies were however maintained until a break in the weather, by pumping water from a spring close to the reservoir, together with other economy measures.

Several small well and spring supplies to various farms and houses were interrupted for short periods. This in view of a fairly wet summer emphasises the urgent necessity for a proper bulk water supply scheme such as the proposed Llyn Conwy Scheme for the area.

#### NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES AND POPULATION SERVED FROM PUBLIC MAINS

Parish	Connections direct to house	Population served	No. of Standpipes	No. served by Standpipes
Cerrigydrudion ... ..	159	456	5	98
Llanfihangel G.M. ... ..	18	63	Nil	7
Llangwm ... ..	11	33	1	6
Llanrwst Rural ... ..	17	51	3	33
Tir Ifan ... ..	10	30	4	45
Llangerniew ... ..	52	156	1	5
Gwytherin ... ..	11	33	3	27
Eglwysbach ... ..	106	320	Nil	Nil
Llanddoget ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

#### NEW WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

No new schemes were brought into operation during the year. It is hoped that next year will see Pand y Tudur village supplied with a piped supply from spring sources at Bodwrach. This supply will be treated and chlorinated, and will be so constructed that it can be incorporated in the Llyn Conwy Scheme at a future date.

Two extensions are proposed to the mains at Cerrigydrudion and one extension to the Llanfihangel G.M. scheme.

The following schedules give details of Reports on water samples taken during the year :—

# CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

In parts per million of water

Chemical Analysis	Ysptyl Itan	Gwytherin	Cerigy- drudion	Llangerniew	Melnycoed	Llanfihangel G.M.	Eglwysbach	Llangwm	Pentrevoelias
Total solid matter in solution ...	100.0	80.0	40.0	80.0	115.0	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Nitrogen in Nitrates ... ..	2.0	1.2	0.2	1.0	1.25	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Nitrites ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Chlorine in Chlorides ... ..	13.0	14.0	11.0	14.0	11.7	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Oxygen absorbed from perman- ganate in 4 hours at 80° F ...	0.04	0.12	Nil	0.4	0.16	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Free and Saline NH3 ... ..	Nil	Nil	0.02	Nil	Nil	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Albuminoid NH3 ... ..	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.02	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Lead, Copper, Zinc ... ..	Nil	Zinc } 0.5 }	Trace } Copper }	Zinc } 0.6 }	Nil	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Microscopical examination of sediment ... ..	Trace Algae	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Temporary Hardness ... ..	25.0	30.0	Nil	60.0	3.0	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
Permanent Hardness ... ..	40.0	25.0	30.0	5.0	3.0	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN
pH Value ... ..	6.0	6.8	6.2	6.4	6.7	NOT KNOWN			NOT KNOWN



# BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

20

Name of Supply and Date Sampled.	Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 3 days at 22 deg. C. Per ml.	Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 2 days at 37 deg. C. Per ml.	Probable No. of B. Coli MacConkey Test 2 days at 37 deg. C. Per 100 ml.	Approx. No. of Faecal and Non- Faecal Coli. Per 100 ml.	Remarks.
MELINYCOED (Mains Supply to Hamlet). 15-5-51 ... .. 26-11-51 ... ..		2 40	0 250	0 0 25 0	Highly Satisfactory. Unsatisfactory.
EGLWYSBACH, GRAIG A N D BRYMBO (Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Joint Water Supply Board). 28-5-51 ... .. 17-9-51 ... .. 8-10-51 ... .. 4-12-51 ... ..		1 100 10 2	0 50 25 0	0 0 50 0 2 0 0 0	Highly Satisfactory. Unsatisfactory. Unsatisfactory. Highly Satisfactory.
TAN LAN (Private piped Supply). 29-5-51 ... ..		1	0	0 0	Highly Satisfactory.
CEIRNIOGE (Private piped Supply). 23-7-51 ... ..		1	0	0 0	Highly Satisfactory.
MAERDY (Well Supply). 20-3-51 ... ..		10	35	5 0	This sample showed a small number of faecal coli.
RHYDLYDAN (Well Supply to Hamlet). 20-3-51 ... ..		4	5	0 0	Satisfactory.



CAPEL GARMON (Well Supply— Mountain View Area). 28-5-51 ... ..	1	5	0	0	Satisfactory.
Village Centre. 2-4-51 ... ..	0	17	0	3	This sample contained small number of non- faecal coli organisms.
LLANGWM (Mains Supply to Village) ... ..	100	250	13	0	Unsatisfactory.
LLANFIHANGEL G.M. (Mains Supply to Birkenhead Corporation) 28-5-51 ... ..	1	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
NEBO (Spring Supply). 2-4-51 ... ..	0	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
PENTREVOELAS (Private Mains Supply to Village). 23-7-51 ... ..	12	50	5	0	Unsatisfactory.
19-9-51 ... ..	40	80	25	0	Unsatisfactory.
19-9-51 ... ..	2	7	7	0	Unsatisfactory.
19-9-51 ... ..	5	8	8	0	Unsatisfactory.
LLANDDOGET. Cae Brychiad Well. 9-5-51 ... ..	300	250	5	0	This sample showed a large number of coliform bacilli, a small number of which appeared to be of recent excretal origin.

Name of Supply and Date Sampled.	Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 8 days at 22 deg. C. Per ml.	Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 2 days at 37 deg. C. Per ml.	Probable No. of B. Coli MacConkey at 37 deg. C. Per 100 ml.	Approx. No. of Faecal and Non- Faecal Coli. Per 100 ml.  Faecal Non-Faecal	Remarks.
LLANDDOGET (continued).					
Bottom Well to Village.					
8-10-51 ... ..		7	25	0 0	Satisfactory for a shallow well.
9-5-51 ... ..		10	13	0 0	Satisfactory.
Top Well to Village.					
8-10-51 ... ..		30	250	25 0	Considerably contaminated.
9-5-51 ... ..		300	1800	0 0	This sample showed a large number of coliform bacilli, none of which appeared to be of recent excretal origin.
PANDY TUDUR (Well Supply).					
15-1-51 ... ..		3	5	0 0	Highly Satisfactory.
17-9-51 ... ..		200	130	130 0	Unsatisfactory.
8-10-51 ... ..		50	1800	5 0	Considerably contaminated.
26-11-51 ... ..		3	50	0 0	Reasonably satisfactory for a shallow well, although the presumptive coliform count is a little high.
LLANGERNIEW (Mains Supply to Village).					
15-1-51 ... ..		200	100	50 5	Improvement on last sample, although it is not up to the standard desirable for a piped supply.
28-5-51 ... ..		40	250	50 0	Unsatisfactory.

LLANGERNIEW (continued).	18	25	5	0	Unsatisfactory.
12-9-51 ... ..	16	35	13	0	Unsatisfactory.
12-9-51 ... ..	22	25	8	0	Unsatisfactory.
12-9-51 ... ..	20	35	5	0	Unsatisfactory.
8-10-51 ... ..	6	35	0	0	Unsatisfactory.
4-12-51 ... ..	30	80	9	0	Unsatisfactory.
CERRIGYDRUDION (Mains Supply)					
28-5-51 ... ..	3	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
GLASFRYN.					
28-5-51 ... ..	0	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
CEFN BRITH.					
30	30	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
GWYTHERRIN (Mains Supply).					
15-1-51 ... ..	1	2	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
28-5-51 ... ..	0	0	0	0	Highly Satisfactory.
17-9-51 ... ..	20	50	50	0	Unsatisfactory.
8-10-51 ... ..	5	5	0	0	Satisfactory for land spring water.
YSPYTTY IFAN (Mains Supply).					
28-5-51 ... ..	2	25	5	0	Unsatisfactory.
27-6-51—					
(1) ... ..	3	2	0	0	Satisfactory.
(2) ... ..	0	5	0	0	Suspicious.
(3) ... ..	1	5	0	0	Suspicious.
(4) ... ..	3	4	0	0	Suspicious.
(5) ... ..	6	2	0	0	Satisfactory.
(6) ... ..	28	5	0	0	Suspicious.
28-7-51 ... ..	4	35	0	0	Unsatisfactory.
17-12-51—					
(1) ... ..	10	35	0	3	This sample showed a number of non-faecal coli.
(2) ... ..	4	35	0	3	This sample showed a number of non-faecal coli.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No. of visits and inspections ... ..	465
No. of informal notices served ... ..	41
No. of statutory notices served ... ..	7
No. of houses water closets installed ... ..	64
No. of houses waste water drainage provided ... ..	41

## MELIN-Y-COED.

21 premises in this hamlet have been provided with waste water drainage and with one exception all existing bucket and privy closets have been converted to water closets. The disposal works constructed by the Council in 1949 are working satisfactorily. The hamlet is supplied with a mains water supply constructed by the Council in 1949. The source are land springs which are collected to a covered mass concrete reservoir of 4,000 gallons capacity.

## EGLWYSBACH.

The work of sewerage and sewage disposal for this village, costing £15,000, is nearing completion. The scheme, besides serving the village of Eglwysbach, takes in the hamlets of Graig and Brymbo. Ultimately, 84 premises will be provided with main drainage. The village and hamlets are supplied with mains water from the Conway and Colwyn Bay Joint Water Supply Board.

## SEWERAGE SCHEMES PENDING.

Schemes have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the sewerage of the villages of Gwytherin and Pentrefoelas.

In regard to the Gwytherin Scheme, the Department has notified the Council that no Public Inquiry will be necessary unless objections are forthcoming.—J. SETH ROBERTS.

---

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Council for the very kind welcome I received on taking up the appointment and for the consideration you have given to any short-comings during a rather difficult first half-year.

Yours truly,

M. JONES ROBERTS.

5th July, 1952.



